SUBJECT No. 169.

Exemptions from house tax.

Mr. Hutchvire Gowda, Gubbi Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—*Madigars* doing the *toti* and other services were exempt from the payment of house tax in certain villages which were municipalities formerly. After they were converted into unions, house tax was imposed on these *madigars* also. This was brought to notice in 1907 and consideration promised. *Uru madigars* were exempted by the orders of 1891. Early orders for exempting these poor people from house tax is prayed for.

Mr. S. Dasappa, District Board, Bangalore, spoke against the proposal.

Reply of Government.—The subject may be placed before Union *Panchayets* and Taluk and District Boards.

SUBJECT No. 170.

Removing lantana and rank vegetation.

(1) Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Lantana and other rank shrubs are growing to an alarming extent. The systematic removal of these may be undertaken every year during the wet weather. A certain amount of money from the Local Funds or Provincial Revenue may be allotted every year for the purpose.

(2) Messrs. S. Sitaramiah, Shimoga Municipality; T. Venkatappa and Nadig Sankarappa, Shimoga Taluk; and Malali Venkatramiah, Manjarabad Taluk.

(2) As lantana has been steadily growing wherever it has taken root and has rendered several towns and villages insanitary, besides affording shelter to wild animals and reptiles, it is necessary that all persons should be compelled to destroy the shrub in their holdings completely. An order to this effect may be passed, as there appears to be no other way of destroying this shrub. The Forest Department should take steps for the removal of lantana in the forests.

(3) Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur Taluk.

(3) The Lantana Extirpation Act should be introduced into the State. A penal law is necessary.

Reply of Government.—Municipalities may frame bye-laws for the removal of lantana. Government also have the subject under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 171.

Kannada correspondence course in public offices.

Mr. V. Raghavachar, Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) All correspondence of District Boards may be in Kannada, as it will enable the members thereof to understand matters better and thereby improve the nature of work such bodies are required to do.

(2) Correspondence in other departments of the State, especially of Civil and Criminal Courts, may be in Kannada as far as possible as this system will afford greater convenience to the public at large.

Reply of Government.—Noted.